

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GABORO 01206 291013Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 ICA-20 AID-05 /041 W  
-----110280 301030Z /10

R 281142Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2105  
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

UNCLAS GABORONE 1206

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF, BC  
SUBJECT: PHELPS STOKES IMPLEMENTATION OF REFUGEE SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM

REF: 77 GABORONE 3149

1. SUMMARY: PHELPS STOKES REP MS. IDA WOOD, ACCOMPANIED BY MS. MARY PRICE, IS IN BOTSWANA TO INTERVIEW ACADEMICALLY QUALIFIED SOUTH AFRICAN AND ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEE STUDENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDY IN SELECTED U.S. COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES. MS. WOOD AND MS. WOOD AND MS. PRICE ALSO GO TO SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO. SOME 70 REFUGEE STUDENTS ARE BEING SELECTED IN THE THREE COUNTRIES. THIS WILL RAISE TO TOTAL OF 100 THE NUMBER OF REFUGEE STUDENTS FROM ZIMBABWE AND SOUTH AFRICA TO BE AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THE PHELPS STOKES GRANT FROM AID. TWO HUNDRED MORE PER YEAR ARE REQUIRED, INCLUDING A NUMBER FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS. ENDS SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GABORO 01206 291013Z

2. THE RETURN OF MS. WOOD HAS ONCE AGAIN REVEALED THE TANGIBLE BENEFITS OF THIS PROGRAM IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF US POLICY OBJECTIVES IN BOTSWANA. THESE BENEFITS AND THEIR CLOSE SUPPORT OF U.S. POLICY OBJECTIVES CAN BE SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE SCHOLARSHIPS HELP TO RELIEVE THE DESTABILIZING PRESENCE

OF REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA. WHILE THEIR NUMBERS (600 800 IN GABORONE, 7-8,000 IN FRANCISTOWN/SELEBI-PIKWE) MAY NOT SEEM OVERWHELMING, THE REFUGEES THEMSELVES ARE OFTEN POLITICAL MILITANTS WHO ARE GENERALLY NOT SATISFIED WITH BOTSWANA'S POLICY OF COOL AND CORRECT RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND DENIAL OF BOTSWANA'S TERRITORY TO FREEDOM FIGHTER OPERATING AGAINST RHODESIA.

B. THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM MITIGATES THE RADICALISM OF REFUGEE STUDENTS, IT FORCES THEM TO RETHINK THEIR CLICHES ABOUT U.S. ALL-OUT SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND ITS ALLEGED INDIFFERENCE TO THE FATE OF BLACKS. UNTIL MS. WOOD'S PREVIOUS VISIT (REFTTEL), THE U.S. HAD TALKED ABOUT ITS CONCERN FOR REFUGEES BUT HAD TAKEN NO SIGNIFICANT ACTION TO GIVE SUBSTANCE AND MEANING TO THOSE DECLARATIONS.

C. IN ACHIEVING OUR POLICY GOAL OF SHARING HUMANITARIAN CONCERN, MS. WOOD AND HER ASSISTANT SERVE A VITAL COUNSELING ROLE, I.E. IN TALKING INDIVIDUALLY WITH STUDENT REFUGEES AND SHOWING CONCERN ON A PERSONAL BASIS. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT EVERY STUDY TEAM WITHOUT EXCEPTION THAT HAS LOOKED INTO THE REFUGEE SITUATION HAS RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF, AND STRONGLY URGED, ACADEMIC COUNSELING: AMBASSADOR CLARK IN HIS REPORT, VAN EGMOND, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, AFRICARE AND A HALF-DOZEN CHURCH GROUPS. ALL AGREED THAT COUNSELING WAS FUNDAMENTAL. BUT MS. WOOD WAS THE FIRST TO ACTUALLY CARRY OUT THE COUNSELING FUNCTION, AND SHE DOES SO IN A WAY THAT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 GABORO 01206 291013Z

GIVES PURPOSE AND SUBSTANCE TO THE COUNSELING PROCESS. FOR EXAMPLE, SHE IS ABLE TO INFORM STUDENT CANDIDATES WITHIN DAYS THEY WILL BE OFFERED SCHOLARSHIP. PHELPS STOKES PROGRAM IS ACTION-ORIENTED WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REPUTATION OF THE U.S. AS A COUNTRY THAT RESPONDS QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY WHEN CALLED UPON TO ASSIST.

3. THE NET EFFECT OF PHELPS STOKES PROGRAM IS, AS NOTED EARLIER, TO PROMPT A RE-THINKING ABOUT THE U.S. AMONG STUDENT REFUGEE CROWD. IT IS NOT AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT THIS REKINDLING OF HOPE IN THE U.S. HAS A CONTAGIOUS EFFECT. AN INTERESTING, DIRECT BY-PRODUCT IS THE OPENLY EXPRESSED DESIRE OF BOTSWANA STUDENTS TO SHARE IN A SIMILAR PROGRAM, SOMETHING WHICH WE ARE SEEKING TO ESTABLISH. WE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOTSWANA STUDENTS WILL NOT MEAN DECREASING THE PHELPS STOKES PROGRAM. RATHER, BASED ON THE NUMBER OF INQUIRIES FROM QUALIFIED CANDIDATES, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PHELPS STOKES PROGRAM COULD USEFULLY BE EXPANDED TO SOME 300 STUDENTS ANNUALLY AND THAT THIS WOULD NOT BY ANY MEANS EXHAUST THE NUMBERS OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED REFUGEE STUDENTS WHOSE PRINCIPAL DESIRE IS TO STUDY AND THEREBY EQUIP THEMSELVES BETTER TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRIES IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: I URGE THAT PROMPT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN

TO INCREASING TO 300 SCHOLARSHIPS ANNUALLY THE PHELPS STOKES  
PROGRAM FOR AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO SOUTH AFRICAN AND ZIMBABWEAN  
STUDENTS REFUGEE, AND THAT IF AT ALL FEASIBLE, A SIGNIFICANT  
NUMBER OF THESE SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO SECONDARY STUDENTS,  
A GROUP HITHERTO UNASSISTED BY USG.  
ALBERTI

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, EDUCATION GRANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978GABORO01206  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780184-1132  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GABORONE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978046/aaaaaeov.tel  
**Line Count:** 122  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** bb6ca1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 GABORONE 3149  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 mar 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2977384  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PHELPS STOKES IMPLEMENTATION OF REFUGEE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** SREF, SEDU, BC, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/bb6ca1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014